

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0273] with the following amended paragraph:

[0273] The rear end of a stainless steel transport pipe 470, which communicates with the tank 410, is inserted into the forward holder 420. The forward end rod of the electric solder suction device 400 includes: a copper heating core 480, having an inner hole through which the transport pipe 470 passes; a ceramic heater 490, at the interior of the heating core 480; a protective pipe 500, which covers the outer circumferential face of the heating core; and a suction nozzle 510, which directly contacts with the solder to melt the solder and suction it (corresponding to a soldering iron tip for handling solder). A male thread 520 is formed at the end of the heating core 480, and a female thread 530, which cooperates therewith, is formed at the rear end of the suction nozzle 510, allowing the suction nozzle 510 to be removed and replaced as needed. At the forward end of the suction nozzle 510, a through-hole sleeve 540 (see FIG. 17) communicates with the transport pipe 470. The ceramic heater 490 is connected to a power cord by way of a lead 550.

Please replace paragraph [0275] with the following amended paragraph:

[0275] FIG. 17 is an enlarged sectional view of the area of the suction nozzle 510 in FIG. 16. The suction nozzle 510 comprises a soldering iron tip core 570, made from copper or a copper alloy, and a soldering iron forward end member 580, made from a metal particle sintered body, as described in detail above. A through-hole sleeve 540 at the interior of the soldering iron forward end member 580 forms a suction opening 560, which opens at the exterior of the tip, for suctioning molten solder. The rear end is connected to the transport pipe 470. Conventionally, in addition to providing iron

plating at the outer circumferential surface of the forward end of the suction nozzle of electric solder suction devices, an iron pipe was inserted into the interior in order to form a through-hole. However, according to the present embodiment of the invention, a soldering iron forward end member 580 alone is provided at the end of the suction nozzle 510, and iron plating is thereby not needed, which improves productivity and reduces discharge of environmental contaminants.